

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Action dated August 11, 2005. The claim amendments included herein are merely clarifying amendments and are not meant to change the intended scope of the claims. Thus, the amendments present the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal, and should be entered in due course. Moreover, the amendments are manifest, requiring only a cursory review by the Examiner, thereby providing additional ground for their entry.

Claims 1-15 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 1-15 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1-2 and 5-10 were amended. Claims 1-15 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 1-15 are in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description.

Figure 1 has been amended to overcome the above rejection. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the 1.84(p)(5) objection.

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(a) because the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

The specification has been amended to overcome the above rejection. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the above 1.84(a) objection.

Objection to the Specification

The specification was objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter.

The specification has been amended to correct the above objection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

§ 112 Rejections

Claims 4-9 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

The specification has been amended to correct the above rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the above 112 first paragraph rejection.

Claims 6, 7 and 10-15 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 6, 7 and 10 have been amended to correct the above rejections. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the above 112 second paragraph rejections.

§§ 102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 1 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DeKadt et al. (USPN 2,625,698).

Claims 1, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Liebscher (USPN 3,638,267).

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liebscher (USPN 3,638,267).

Claims 14 and were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liebscher (USPN 3,638,267) in view of Christesen (USPN 1,972,870).

Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 10 are patentable over DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen either taken alone or in combination.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claim 1, 2 and 10 are directed towards a sweeper. For example, independent claim 1 specifies that the sweeper comprises a first main wheel, a brush wheel, and a plurality of intermediate wheels. Claim 1 further specifies that the intermediate wheels are in rotational communication with an outside circumference of the first main wheel. Supporting disclosure for Applicant's sweeper can be found throughout the specification.

DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen do not disclose a plurality of intermediate wheels that are in rotational communication with an outside circumference of a first main wheel.

Luders discloses a sweeper having a wheel 43. Within this wheel are pinions 57, 62 and 65. Because these pinions are located within the wheel, the pinions can not be in rotational communication with an outside circumference of wheel 43.

Liebscher discloses a sweeper having wheel 7. The wheel 7 contains gears 10, 11 and 12 located within the wheel. These gears intermesh with one another but they do not intermesh with an outside circumference of wheel 7.

Christensen does not disclose any intermediate wheels but was merely relied upon by Examiner for its handle feature.

Since DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen do not disclose a plurality of intermediate wheels that are in rotational communication with an outside circumference

of the first main wheel, Applicant believes that independent claims 1, 2 and 10 are patentable over DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen -- either taken alone or in combination -- on at least this basis.

Claims 3-9 depend on claim 2. Since claim 2 is believed to be patentable over DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen, claims 3-9 are believed to be patentable over DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen on the basis of their dependency on claim 2.

Claims 11-15 depend on claim 10. Since claim 10 is believed to be patentable over DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen, claims 11-15 are believed to be patentable over DeKadt, Liebscher and Christesen on the basis of their dependency on claim 10.

CONCLUSION

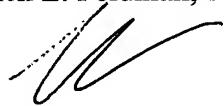
Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 06-0515.

Respectfully submitted,
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